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RUSS 202.01: Intermediate Russian II

Clint B. Walker

University of Montana, Missoula, clint.walker@mso.umt.edu

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Профессор Клинт Уокер/Prof. Clint Walker
Office: LA 330, x2501
clint.walker@mso.umt.edu

Intermediate Russian
RUSS 202, spring 2020 in LA 234
M, T, Thurs., 11-11:50am **plus** one
Individualized Speaking Session on Wed.

Office Hours: Mon 12-2pm, Wed 12-1pm in LA 330 or by appointment

Русский язык: Второй год

Required Course Materials: Free (the cost is on me☺)

Coursepack for RUS 202
Journal/Vocab notebook
DVD «Снежная Королева»
Книга «Русский язык в картинках» (scans)
Certain small booklets in Russian

*The above course materials can be purchased from your instructor.
All materials must be paid for by the end of the first week of class.

**I will also be lending you a CD with a native speaker reading
«Снежная Королева» and a DVD of the film «Москва слезам не верит».
If the DVD is damaged or lost, you will be expected to pay replacement costs.

Learning Outcomes and Course Objectives

In the two semesters of Intermediate Russian we will strive for the following:

GRAMMAR: The primary goal of this course is to reinforce the rules of Russian grammar that were covered in some fashion in First-Year Russian and then to build on and further develop the range of this knowledge base. **When you are trying to build a solid structure that will last, everything depends on how solidly you construct your foundation.** If you start to build on a shoddy foundation, the likelihood of collapse becomes high. We want to reduce the chances of any collapsed areas in your Russian structure by helping to solidify and buttress your base before you attempt to build new floors and levels. Moreover, if your foundation is well laid in Russian, you will substantially increase the rate at which you will be able to assimilate and successfully integrate new vocabulary into your Russian lexicon. Without a solid foundation, your brain will not possess a ready-made scaffolding for attaching new information as it is covered, so it will be far less likely to attach permanently to your long-term memory. The foundational structures for successfully constructing thoughts in Russian make up what is commonly referred to as grammar, and in the Russian language, the role that grammatical structures play for helping native speakers give verbal form to their thoughts is of paramount importance.

Having acquired a rudimentary understanding of much if not all of the basics of Russian grammar (six cases and all major verb conjugation patterns, basic verb of motion usage, basic verb aspect usage, etc.), you should (ideally) be relatively familiar with many of the basic concepts that will be revisited in an accelerated manner and reinforced in Russian 201 and Russian 202. However, I am well aware that due to the long summer break and the rapid pace of first-year Russian, a number of the topics that you may have already covered in first-year will in fact NOT be solid or clear in your minds. In fact, I am even willing to bet that there are even a number of basic concepts that you remember rather poorly. Your task in intermediate Russian, therefore, is to solidify your knowledge of Russian grammar, especially the cases (the declension and use of nouns, pronouns, and adjectives) and verbs (conjugation, tense, aspect, and case governance) and to build on and expand your knowledge base **even as you simultaneously work to fill in gaps in your knowledge from first-year Russian.** In addition, you need to work toward a greater command of the "finer points" of Russian. Under this category I have in mind more advanced grammar concepts, such as subjunctive mood, participles, and verbal adverbs, and various exceptions, idioms, and stylistic nuances.

VOCABULARY: Intermediate Russian aims to solidify and enrich your lexicon (vocabulary) in Russian at a rapid rate. We also aim to reduce the chances that you will lose the vocabulary that you have already developed by revisiting key introductory-level vocabulary topics, such as food, clothing, animals, body parts, etc. Your vocabulary acquisition will be enhanced through the grouping of vocabulary entries around specific topics, texts, and films. Whenever possible, we will strive to learn new vocabulary in context, the way that native speakers do, so that you will be learning not isolated word units translated into English, but how words are used in various contexts in the original language. In order to enrich your lexicon in Russian, you must study vocabulary diligently and consistently. Organization is most important: **I strongly suggest that you use flash cards and/or a vocabulary notebook to make the job easier.** For each chapter test you are expected to know all of the vocabulary that we have covered up to that point in readings and through our activities in class. Special emphasis will be placed on the most recent vocabulary covered. Much of the vocabulary covered in RUSS 201 and especially RUSS 202 will be learned in authentic contexts (e.g., short texts, the DVDs with the films «Баллада о солдате», «Снежная Королева» and «Москва слезам не верит», etc).

SPEAKING, READING and WRITING: This second semester of Intermediate Russian places particular emphasis on improving your ability to speak, read and write in Russian. To this end I conduct a substantial part of class in Russian and ask that you adhere to a Russian-only policy in the classroom whenever possible.

We will also **substitute our regular Wednesday classes for twenty-minute Individualized Speaking Sessions** that you will sign up for during the first week or two of classes. These sessions will allow me to give each of you much more focused speaking practice where you will be able to receive immediate feedback on your grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, etc. It will also provide an opportunity for me to work with each of you individually on aspects of Russian that are of particular concern to you. Come ready to speak, prepare whatever is assigned for oral practice, and feel free to write down questions you want to ask or grammar points that you would like explained in more detail. These sessions will be graded and will constitute a substantial portion of your class participation grade.

During this course you will progress from single-word and sentence-length answers in Russian to the level of full-paragraph narration on a variety of subjects. You will also gradually progress from reading primarily adapted short texts that are specially written for non-native speakers to tasks designed to teach you how to work with authentic, unadapted texts in Russian. Learning to comprehend authentic Russian requires not only a base vocabulary and knowledge of grammar and key roots, but also strategies for working with authentic texts. You will learn to develop reading and listening strategies and skills to help prepare you to work with unfamiliar material in an authentic, native environment. Finally, you will learn to write in a variety of modes including paragraph descriptions, personal letters, personal essays, and analytical writing in Russian. You will also practice writing in Russian both with and without the use of dictionaries, reference aids, and the use of the internet. You will thus learn how to use the many language tools that are readily available to compose in Russian as well as to compose without them, since use of Russian in the real world requires both types of these skillsets.

CULTURE: Language is inseparable from culture, and one cannot understand many basic language concepts without an understanding of how the words and concepts function within the culture as a whole. Every WORD in a language is a minute part of a larger cultural WORLD. One of the strengths of this year-long course is that it contains readings and video material on a wide array of subjects from Russian literature, history and popular culture. These materials provide a range of subject matter to read and discuss and, as an added benefit, also introduce you to a wide spectrum of Russian culture and civilization.

As you can see from this introduction, Second-Year (Intermediate) Russian is a demanding course. During two semesters you will work to improve your abilities in each of the four areas of foreign-language competence: comprehension (listening), reading, speaking, and writing. Our primary goal is to activate and expand on the skills you learned in first-year Russian. You will also begin to internalize the deep structures in the Russian language that help native speakers to assimilate new vocabulary and information in the language at a much faster pace than those without an innate knowledge of these deep structures and patterns inherent to the Russian language. The grammar must become second nature to you, and you will need to expand your active vocabulary rather rapidly if you are to become proficient in the language. Ultimately our aim by the end of third-year Russian (Advanced Russian) is to be ready to read, discuss, and write about authentic Russian texts in Russian in a relatively sophisticated manner. Ideally, second-year Russian should function as a bridge leading toward this goal. If **YOU** take some initiative on your own and make the extra effort, I have no doubt that you will be greatly rewarded! You are not competing against one another in the class -- all of you are working together toward a common goal. Make a concentrated effort to help one other, especially if you notice that someone is having an "off" day! With one year of hard work all of you can go from the level of a novice to the level of a student who is ready to begin reading works of Russian literature and cinema in their original language!

Course Requirements and Guidelines

Class Participation

You are expected to attend nearly every class and to contribute actively toward its success. The value and enjoyment you obtain from this class depends on your active participation and engagement in the course material. Adequate preparation will insure that you (and others) have an enriching and enjoyable class experience. Bear in mind that class participation counts as 15% of your final grade for this class.

Attendance Policy

Please be sure to bring a letter of excuse for official or excused absences (e.g., serious illness, religious holiday, family emergency). After four unexcused absences your course grade may be lowered by one step (e.g., A- to B+). Six or more unexcused absences may result in the lowering of your grade by one full letter (e.g., A- to B-). Eight or more unexcused absences may lower your grade two full letters (e.g., A to C)! This is a performance-based course that depends on your active participation in discussion of the material.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE: It is essential to the learning process that students treat each other and the instructor with respect. Under the Student Conduct Code, students who are found to be disruptive may be asked to leave the classroom. Disruptive behaviors may include but are not limited to:

- ☐ Using electronic communication devices, including cell phones and laptops, for purposes unrelated to ongoing class activities.
- ☐ Carrying on side conversations that are distracting to the instructor and other students.
- ☐ Verbally interrupting the class with comments or questions not relevant to the course or to the current discussion.
- ☐ Failure to participate in assigned group activities.
- ☐ Significantly interfering with the instructor's work activities during or outside of class.

Grading

The final grade for this course will be calculated according to the following formula:

Class Participation	10%	
Homework		10%
Individualized Speaking Session Grade	20%	
Oral exam		10%
Two comprehensive tests		25%
Final Exam		25%

GRADING SCALE

94%-100%	A	88%-89% B+	78%-79% C+	60%-69% D
90%-93% A-	83%-87% B	73%-77% C	59% and below	F
	80%-82% B-	70%-72% C-		

A Word about Academic Honesty

All students should practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. I expect you to adhere to the standards set forth in the Student Conduct Code.

Here are some specific guidelines for this course.

1. You should complete all tests (including the final) and quizzes without consulting outside sources and without help from another individual. All work on these exercises should be solely your own.

2. Working with other students on homework can be quite helpful and is encouraged as long as you adhere to a few simple rules:

A. It is always permissible to consult with other students to review **general concepts** (i.e., when to use genitive case, case usage after numbers, the difference between imperfective and perfective aspect).

B. You may work on individual homework assignments with other students, but you need to make this a truly **collaborative** effort.

3. You may consult with native or heritage speakers only on general issues of Russian grammar. You should **not** ask a native speaker for help on individual assignments. Feel free to practice your Russian with anyone you wish, however (and I strongly encourage you to attend Russian-related functions on campus, such as Russian table, film screenings, etc.).

4. If you are unclear about whether certain forms of consultation or common work are acceptable, **please ask me**.

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will be glad to work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.

SYLLABUS

Nota Bene – The syllabus which follows is a **general** syllabus. I reserve the right to add or subtract material to daily assignments or to make changes, but I will make an effort to keep major assignments (e.g. test dates) as they are listed below.

WEEK 1:

Январь

пн 13 Работа со словарем и с глаголами
Begin Case Overview

Домашка: Do the fill ins for the vocab list 1 on page 1 of the coursepack
(the Russian vocab and corresponding pictures can be found in the book «Русский язык в картинках»)

вт 14 Case Overview (Continued)

Домашка: Outline of uses of Dative and Instrumental Cases with at least four examples for each case. You may wish to consult your coursepack from Russ 201.

ср 15 Individual Speaking Session One

Домашка: Outline of uses of the Genitive Cases with at least six examples. You may wish to consult your coursepack from Russ 201.

чт 16 Case Overview (Continued)
Work with verbs from coursepack, section 1

Домашка: Do the fill ins for the vocab list 2 on page 2 of the coursepack
(the Russian vocab and corresponding pictures can be found in the book «Русский язык в картинках»)

Verb Conjugation sheets in coursepack, p. 10-13
(group one, 4 pages)

WEEK 2

пн 20 **NO CLASS Martin Luther King Jr Day**

вт 21 Verb Conjugation Overview

ср 22 Individual Speaking Session Two on Verbs (review from list of 50)

чт 23 Verb Conjugation Overview
Домашка: Do the fill ins for vocab list 2 on page 2 of the coursepack
(the Russian vocab and corresponding pictures can be found in the book «Русский язык в картинках»)

Verb Conjugation sheets in coursepack, p. 10-13
(group one, 4 pages)

WEEK 3

пн 27 Vocabulary for Politics and Government

Домашка: Work with vocabulary

вт 28 Vocabulary for Politics and Government

Домашка: Prepare for Speaking Session on Politics and Government

ср 29 Individual Speaking Session Three on Politics and Government

чт 30 Do the fill ins for vocab list 4 on page 5 of the coursepack
(the Russian vocab and corresponding pictures can be found in the book «Русский язык в картинках»)

Verb Conjugation sheets in coursepack, p. 14-17
(group two, 4 pages)

февраль

WEEK 4

пн 3 Professions and their Verbs

вт 4 Professions and their Verbs
Work with TOT

Домашка: Prepare for Speaking Session on Professions

ср 5 Individual Speaking Session Four: Professions and their Verbs

Домашка: Professions Sheet

чт 6 Work with TOT and cases it is used with

Домашка: Do the fill ins for vocab list 5 on page 5 of the coursepack
(the Russian vocab and corresponding pictures can be found in the book «Русский язык в картинках»)

Verb Conjugation sheets in coursepack, p. 18-21
(group three, 4 pages)

WEEK 5

пн 10 Работа со словарем и с глаголами

Домашка: TOT examples

вт 11 Work with TOT and cases it is used with (vocab for emotions)

Домашка: Prepare for Speaking Session

ср 12 Individual Speaking Session Five: TOT practice with Emotions

чт 13 Comparative Adjectives

Домашка: Do the fill ins for vocab list 6 on page 6 of the coursepack
(the Russian vocab and corresponding pictures can be found in the book «Русский язык в картинках»)

Verb Conjugation sheets in coursepack, p. 22-25
(group four, 4 pages)

WEEK 6

пн 17 **NO CLASS President's Day**

вт 18 Работа со словарем и с глаголами

Домашка: Comparative Adjective worksheets

ср 19 Professions and Comparative Adjectives

Домашка: Comparative Adjective worksheets

чт 20 Professions and Comparative Adjectives

Домашка: Do the fill ins for vocab list 7 on page 7 of the coursepack
(the Russian vocab and corresponding pictures can be found in the book «Русский язык в картинках»)

Verb Conjugation sheets in coursepack, p. 26-29
(group five, 4 pages)

WEEK 7

пн	24	Работа со словарем и с глаголами Домашка: Worksheet on Comparative Adjectives
вт	25	Professions and Comparative Adjectives Домашка: Worksheet on Comparative Adjectives
ср	26	Professions and Comparative Adjectives
чт	27	NO CLASS – your professor will be away giving a guest talk Домашка: Do the fill ins for vocab list 8 on page 8 of the coursepack (the Russian vocab and corresponding pictures can be found in the book «Русский язык в картинках») Verb Conjugation sheets in coursepack, p. 30-33 (group six, 4 pages)

WEEK 8

март		
пн	2	Работа со словарем и с глаголами Домашка: Review Sheet
вт	3	Review for First Test Домашка:
ср	4	Individual Speaking Session Eight Домашка:
чт	5	КОНТРОЛЬНАЯ № 1 Домашка: Do the fill ins for vocab list 9 on page 9 of the coursepack (the Russian vocab and corresponding pictures can be found in the book «Русский язык в картинках») Verb Conjugation sheets in coursepack, p. 34-37 (group seven , 4 pages)

WEEK 9

пн	9	Работа со словарем и с глаголами Active Participles Домашка: Worksheet on Active Participles
вт	10	Active Participles Домашка: Worksheet on Active Participles
ср	11	Individual Speaking Session Nine
	чт	12 Active Participles

WEEK 10

пн	16	SPRING BREAK
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вт 17 **SPRING BREAK**

ср 18 **SPRING BREAK**

чт 19 **SPRING BREAK**

WEEK 11

пн 23 Active and Passive Participles

Домашка: Worksheet on Active and Passive Participles

вт 24 Passive Participles

Домашка: Worksheet on Passive Participles

ср 25 Individual Speaking Session Ten

чт 26 Passive Participles

Домашка: Worksheet on Passive Participles

WEEK 12

пн 30 Passive Participles

Домашка: Watch the first half (the first DVD) of the film «Москва слезам не верит» and prepare to discuss it in class.

вт 31 «Москва слезам не верит» (General Overview of First Half)
Work with Vocab for Describing the Characters

Домашка: Vocab to go with part one of the film, p. 117. Look up the words in a dictionary and think about how you might use this vocab to discuss part one of the film.

апрель
ср 1 Individualized Speaking Session Eleven

Домашка: «Москва слезам не верит» (первая серия)
1) Rewatch sections 7-9 (esp. mins. 25.30-34.00) из 1-ой серии с русскими субтитрами. Подготовьтесь к дискуссии.
2) Look at questions 30-44 (coursepack, p. 120) on this part of the film and answer at least 8 of them in Russian.

чт 2 Discussion of «Москва слезам не верит» Part One (First Half)

Домашка: Watch the second half of the film «Москва слезам не верит» on the second DVD. Prepare to discuss the characters and what happens to them, how they change or do not change, and what new characters appear in the second half, which takes place about fifteen years after part one.

WEEK 13

пн 6 «Москва слезам не верит», Part Two (overview)

Домашка: Vocab to go with part two of the film, p. 117
(second group on the bottom half of the page).

Look up the words in a dictionary and think about how you might use this vocab to discuss part two of the film.

Write at least ten sentences about events and characters from the second half of the film using vocab on p. 117.

вт 7 «Москва слезам не верит» (General Overview of Second Half)
Work with Vocab for Describing the Characters and Events in Part Two

Домашка: 1) Пересмотрите 7-9 (rewatch Part Two, sections 7-9, esp. mins. 27.30-45.45) с русскими субтитрами.
Подготовьтесь к дискуссии.

2) Look at questions 107-120 (coursepack, pp. 124-125) on this part of the film and answer at least 10 of these questions in Russian.

ср 8 Individualized Speaking Session Twelve: Гора и Катя

Домашка: Prepare for a general discussion of the entire film in Russian. Write down at least five questions about the characters and content of the film that you want to ask your classmates to answer in Russian.

чт 9 **КОНТРОЛЬНАЯ № 2**

Домашка: Вопросы для того чтобы подготовиться к устному экзамену (1-15)

WEEK 14: УСТНЫЙ ЭКЗАМЕН

пн 13 Подготовка к устному экзамену
Подготовка к письменному экзамену (FINAL)

Sign-up for Oral Exam Slot on next week

Домашка: Вопросы чтобы подготовиться к устному экзамену (16-25)

вт 14 Подготовка к устному экзамену
Подготовка к письменному экзамену (FINAL)

Домашка: Вопросы чтобы подготовиться к устному экзамену (finish all)

ср 15 Подготовка к устному экзамену
Подготовка к письменному экзамену (FINAL)

Домашка: Review all Oral Exam Questions

чт 16 Подготовка к устному экзамену
Подготовка к письменному экзамену (FINAL)

Домашка: Study for Oral Exam

WEEK 15: УСТНЫЙ ЭКЗАМЕН и ПОВТОРЕНИЕ

пн 20 Подготовка к устному экзамену

вт 21 **УСТНЫЙ ЭКЗАМЕН (we will have no regular class today)**

ср 22 **УСТНЫЙ ЭКЗАМЕН (we will have no regular class today)**

чт 23 Повторение перед письменным экзаменом

WEEK 16: УСТНЫЙ ЭКЗАМЕН и ПОВТОРЕНИЕ

пн	27	Повторение перед письменным экзаменом
вт	28	Повторение перед письменным экзаменом
ср	29	Повторение перед письменным экзаменом
чт	30	Повторение перед письменным экзаменом

Your **final exam** will be on Mon., **May 4 from 10:10am-12:10pm** in LA 234.